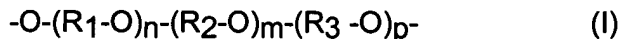




CLAIM AMENDMENTS

Please cancel claim 5 and amend claims 1, 3, 4, 6, and 10 as follows:

1. (Currently amended) A medical device comprising: a poly(oxyalkylene)-containing polymeric material and a water-soluble and biocompatible organic multi-acid or biocompatible salt thereof, wherein the biocompatible organic multi-acid is citric acid or 2-ketoglutaric acid, wherein the biocompatible salt of the organic multi-acid is sodium, potassium, or ammonium salt, wherein the poly(oxyalkylene)-containing polymeric material has a polymer network having at least one unit of formula (I)



wherein R₁, R₂, and R₃, independently of one other, are each linear or branched C₂-C₄-alkylene, and n, m and p, independently of one another, are each a number from 0 to 100, wherein the sum of (n+m+p) is 5 to 1000;

wherein the biocompatible organic multi-acid or biocompatible salt thereof is distributed within the poly(oxyalkylene)-containing polymeric material but not crosslinked to the polymer network, and wherein the biocompatible organic multi-acid or biocompatible salt thereof is present in an amount effective to improve the stability of the medical device so that the medical device has a decreased susceptibility to oxidative degradation, characterized by having at least an 1.5-fold reduction of the amount of detectable formic acid and optionally other degradation by-products.

2. (Original) A medical device of claim 1, wherein the medical device is an ophthalmic device.
3. (Currently amended) A medical device of claim 1, wherein the biocompatible organic multi-acid is citric acid ~~selected from the group consisting of hydroxy diacids, hydroxy triacids, and amino acids.~~
4. (Currently amended) A medical device of claim 3, wherein the biocompatible organic multi-acid is 2-ketoglutaric acid ~~an α -oxo multi-acid.~~
5. (Cancelled)
6. (Currently amended) A medical device of claim 35, wherein the medical device ~~of the invention~~ is a copolymerization product of a composition comprising (a) a prepolymer containing ethylenically unsaturated groups and at least one poly(oxyalkylene) unit of formula (I); (b) a water-soluble and biocompatible organic multi-acid or biocompatible

salt thereof in an amount sufficient to improve the stability of a poly(oxyalkylene)-containing polymeric material made from the composition; (c) optionally a photoinitiator or a thermal initiator; and (d) optionally one or more vinylic monomers.

7. (Original) A medical device of claim 6, wherein the prepolymer is a crosslinkable polyurea.
8. (Original) A medical device of claim 6, wherein the prepolymer is a crosslinkable polyurethane.
9. (Original) A medical device of claim 6, wherein the medical device is an ophthalmic device.
10. (Currently amended) A medical device of claim 35, wherein the biocompatible organic multi-acid or biocompatible salt thereof is impregnated within the poly(oxyalkylene)-containing polymeric material, wherein the poly(oxyalkylene)-containing polymeric material is a polymerization product of a reactive mixture comprising (a) a monomer or prepolymer having at least one poly(oxyalkylene) unit of formula (I) and functional groups which are amino, hydroxyl or isocyanato groups, and (b) an organic diamine, an organic polyamine, an organic diol, an organic polyol, an organic diisocyanate, or organic polyisocyanate, provided that components (a) and (b) react with each other to form a polyurea and/or polyurethane network.
11. (Original) A medical device of claim 10, wherein the medical device is an ophthalmic device.
- 12-41. (Cancelled)